(b)(1)
(b)(3)

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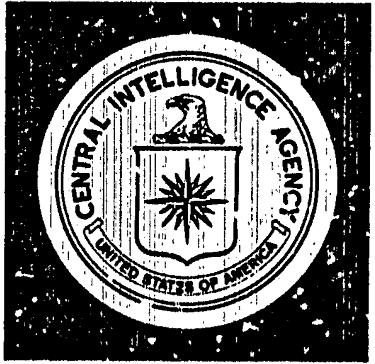
OSI-WS-30/75

28 July 1975



Weekly Surveyor

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[redacted]

WEEKLY SURVEYOR

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CHINA

[redacted]

[redacted] evidence of PRC space priorities. As of 1973, reconnaissance satellites had top priority while communications and space research satellites were second and third in priority, respectively. [redacted] the military takeover of most of China's space R&D previously under the Academy of Sciences. [redacted] (Page 10)

[redacted]

SPACE

Priorities and Military Control of PRC Space Program Reported: [redacted] as of late 1973, the PRC had assigned top priority to developing various types of reconnaissance satellites. Communications and space research satellites were second and third priority, respectively. [redacted] changes which resulted in practically all space-related R&D, previously under the Academy of Sciences (CAS), being assigned to institutes under the National Science and Technology Commission (NDSTC). Little emphasis remained on purely scientific space research which was left with the CAS. [redacted]

Comment: Although these relative priorities and military control of China's space program have been suspected and agree with intelligence assessments, this is [redacted] The Chinese have shown a strong interest in satellite reconnaissance since 1962, and there has been evidence of an ongoing Chinese program since 1971. There also has been strong evidence of an ongoing native communications satellite program. [redacted] Chinese scientists have stated that a meteorological satellite would be launched "soon." It could also support military programs. [redacted] NDSTC takeover of ionospheric and solar R&D with emphasis on determining solar effects on the ionosphere and, subsequently, on communications. All pertinent scientific data were forwarded to the NDSTC.

The low priority for purely scientific space investigation is supported by the lack of launches since the two satellites in 1970 and 1971 despite the availability of a proven launch vehicle. Reconnaissance and communications satellites, however, probably would require a larger, more sophisticated launch vehicle. [redacted]

[redacted]